In the Claims

Cancel claims 31, 39, 43-48 and 50.

Amend claims 23-30, 32-38 and 40-42 where indicated.

1	23. (Currently Amended) A method of making a magnetic read head wherein
2	the read head has a read region that has first and second sides that extend substantially
3	perpendicular to the ABS, first and second end regions that are adjacent the first and second sides
4	respectively and the read region and first and second end regions being adjacent the ABS,
5	comprising:
6	forming a first shield layer;
7	forming an insulation layer on the first shield layer,
8	forming an antiferromagnetic oxide film on the insulation film;
3	forming a spin valve sensor with a non-magnetic layer directly on a first gap layer, the
ю 11	first gap layer comprising a bi-layer of said insulation film and said antiferromagnetic oxide film;
11	forming a mask on the spin valve sensor with first and second openings at first and
12	second lead layer sites wherein the first and second openings define first and second side edges
13	of a the spin valve sensor to be located in the read region;
14	milling away spin valve sensor material in the first and second openings to expose the
15	antiferromagnetic oxide film;
16	forming first and second lead layers on the antiferromagnetic oxide film in the first and
17	second openings;
18	removing the mask;
19	forming a second gap layer on the spin valve sensor and the first and second lead layers;
20	and
21	forming a second shield layer on the second gap layer.
	1 2 THERE
1	24. (Original) Amethod as claimed in claim 23 wherein the first and second lead
2	layers have a ferromagnetic film formed directly on the antiferromagnetic oxide film in the first

and second end regions respectively.

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	3 The 2
1	25. (Original) Amethod as claimed in claim 24 wherein the spin valve sensor
2	is formed in the presence of a magnetic field that is directed perpendicular to the ABS and the
3	first and second lead layers are formed in the presence of a magnetic field that is directed parallel
4	to the ABS.
	4
1	(Currently Amended) A method of making a magnetic read head wherein
. 2	the read head has a read region that has first and second sides that extend substantially
3	perpendicular to the ABS, first and second end regions that are adjacent the first and second sides
4	respectively and the read region and first and second end regions being adjacent the ABS,
5	comprising:
6	forming a first shield layer;
7	forming an insulation film on the first shield layer,
ε ,	forming an antiferromagnetic oxide film on the insulation film;
B	forming a spin valve sensor on a first read gap layer which comprises bi-layer of said
10	insulation film and said antiferromagnetic oxide film;
11	said forming of the spin valve sensor including:
12	forming a non-magnetic seed layer directly on the antiferromagnetic oxide film;
13	forming a ferromagnetic free layer on the non-magnetic seed layer;
14	forming a electrically conductive non-magnetic spacer layer on the free layer;
15	forming a ferromagnetic pinned layer on the electrically conductive non-magnetic
16	spacer layer;
17	forming an antiferromagnetic metallic layer of Ni-Mn on the ferromagnetic
18	pinned layer;
19	forming a cap layer on the antiferromagnetic metallic layer;
20	annealing the ferromagnetic pinned layer and the antiferromagnetic metallic layer
21	of Ni-Mn at 240°-280° for 2-10 hours in a the presence of a magnetic field that is
22	directed transverse to the ABS;
23	forming a mask with first and second openings at the first and second end regions
24.	wherein the first and second openings define said first and second sides of the read
25	region;

26	milling away the spin valve sensor within each of the first and second openings
27	to expose the antiferromagnetic oxide film,
28	forming first and second lead layers on the antiferromagnetic oxide film in the
29	first and second openings respectively, and
30	removing the mark; mask;
31	milling away the cap layer and a portion of the antiferromagnetic metallic layer
.32	of the spin valve sensor, and a portion of the cap layer of the first and second lead layers;
33	forming a second read gap layer on the antiferromagnetic metallic layer and on the first
34	and second lead layers, and
35	forming a second shield layer on the second read gap layer.
	Oxide film is NiO. Amethod as claimed in claim 26 wherein the antiferromagnetic
1 2	(Original) Amethod as claimed in claim 27 wherein the forming each of the first and second lead layers comprises:
3	forming a soft ferromagnetic film directly on the antiferromagnetic oxide film portion
4	in a respective end region;
5	forming a non-magnetic adhesion film on a respective soft ferromagnetic film in a
- 6	respective end region;
7	forming an electrically conductive non-magnetic film on a respective non-magnetic
8	adhesion film in a respective end region; and
9	forming a non-magnetic cap layer on a respective electrically conductive non-magnetic
10	film in a respective end region.
1 ·	(Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 28 wherein the first
2	and second lead layers are formed in the presence of a magnetic field that is directed parallel to
3	the ABS.

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		<i>3</i> 0.	(Currently Amer	ided)	A meth	od of	makın	ıg a m	nagnetic	read h	ead ti	nat nas
an	air	bearing	surface (ABS)	, a read re	egion that	has	first	and	second	sides	that	extend
sub	star	ntially pe	pendicular to the	ABS, first a	and second	l end 1	region	s tha	t are ad	jacent	the fi	rst and
sec	ond	sides re	spectively and the	read region	and first	and so	econd	end	regions	being	adjac	ent the
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forming a read sensor in the read region with first and second side edges that define said first and second sides of the read region as follows:

forming a ferromagnetic free layer and a ferromagnetic pinned layer;

forming an electrically conductive non-magnetic spacer layer between the free and pinned layers;

forming an antiferromagnetic metallic layer that exchange couples to the pinned layer, and

forming a cap layer, on the antiferromagnetic metallic layer;

forming first and second lead layers in the first and second end regions with each lead layer having a first side edge wherein the first side edge of the first lead layer is adjacent the first side edge of the read sensor and the first side edge of the second lead layer is adjacent the second side edge of the read sensor;

forming first and second gap layers with each gap layer located in each of the read region and the first and second end regions;

forming the read sensor and the first and second gap layers between the first and second shield layers;

forming first and second shield layers with the read sensor and the first and second gap layers located therebetween;

forming an antiferromagnetic oxide film between an insulation film and the first lead layer in the first end region, between the insulation film and the read sensor in the read region and between the insulation film and the second lead layer in the second end region with interfacing the first and second lead layers; being exchange coupling to the antiferromagnetic oxide film and magnetostatically coupling to the read sensor; and

29	forming each of the first and second lead layers with a ferromagnetic film so that the
30	ferromagnetic film of each of the first and second lead layers exchange couples to the
31	antiferromagnetic oxide film in the first and second end regions respectively and
32	magnetostatically couples to the read sensor; and
33	wherein the forming of the read sensor locating locates the free layer between the
34	antiferromagnetic oxide film and the pinned layer
	31 (Cancel)
	g the 8
1	(Currently Amended) Amethod as claimed in claim 31 30 wherein the
2.	making of each lead layer includes:
3	forming non-magnetic adhesion and cap films;
4	forming an electrically conductive non-magnetic film between the non-magnetic adhesion
/s \	and cap films; and
6)	in each of the first and second lead layers, forming the ferromagnetic film between the
7	non-magnetic adhesion film and the antiferromagnetic oxide film in the first and second end
8	regions, respectively
	10 the 9
1	(Original) Amethod as claimed in claim 32 wherein the antiferromagnetic
2	metallic layer is selected from the group/ir-Mn, Ni-Mn, Rh-Mn, Pt-Mn, Pd-Pt-Mn and Cr-Pt-Mn.
	11 Th D
1	(Original) A method as claimed in claim 32 wherein the antiferromagnetic
-2	oxide film is selected from the group NiO and α -Fe ₂ O ₃ . Wherein the antiferromagnetic
	12 ThP 11
1	35. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 34 wherein the antiferromagnetic
2	metallic layer is selected from the group Ir-Mn, Ni-Mn, RbMn, Pt-Mn, Pd-Pt-Mn and Cr-Pt-Mn.
	13 h the 9
1	36. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 32 wherein the non-
2	magnetic seed layer is Ta, the free film is Ni-Fe, the spacer layer is Cu, the pinned layer is Co
3	and the antiferromagnetic metallic layer is Ni-Mn.

		14		The 13
1	`	37	(Original)	Amethod as claimed in claim 36 wherein the antiferromagnetic
2	0	xide film is s	selected from	the group NiO and α-Fe ₂ O ₃ .
		15		consisting of a
1	•	38.	(Original)	A method as claimed in claim 32 wherein the antiferromagnetic
2 (xide film is N	NiO and the fe	rromagnetic film of each of the first and second lead layers is Ni-Fe.
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		39.	(Cancel)	19
	^	16		11.0 38
1	(40.	(Original)	Amethod as claimed in claim 39 wherein the antiferromagnetic
2	n	netallic layer	is Ni-Mn.	
1		17	•	(16)
	\wedge	ST.	(Original)	A method as claimed in claim 40 wherein a thickness of the
2/(netallic antife	erromagnetic :	layer is 15 - 25 nm.
	•	18		12
1	`	A2.	(Original)	Amethod as claimed in claim 41 wherein the antiferromagnetic
2	<u>'</u>	xide film is N	NiO and the fe	rromagnetic film of each of the first and second lead layers is Ni-Fe.
	5	43.	(Cancel)	
	/	44.	(Cancel)	
	1	45.	(Cancel)	
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	19
1	(New) A method of making a magnetic read head that has a head surface
2	for facing a magnetic medium, comprising the steps of:
3	forming a first shield layer;
· 4	forming a first read gap layer comprising the steps of
5	forming an insulation film on the first shield layer; and
6	forming an antiferromagnetic oxide film on the insulation film;
7	forming a spin valve sensor material layer directly on the first read gap layer;
8/	forming a mask on the spin valve sensor material layer with first and second openings;
*	milling away portions of the spin valve sensor material layer in the first and second
18	openings to expose the antiferromagnetic oxide film and form a spin valve sensor with first and
11	second side edges;
12	forming first and second lead layers on the antiferromagnetic oxide film in the first and
13	second openings and adjacent said first and second side edges respectively;
14	removing the mask;
15	forming a second read gap layer on the spin valve sensor and the first and second lead
16	layers, and
17	forming a second shield layer on the second read gap layer.
	20 the 19
1	(New) See Method as claimed in claim 51 wherein each of the first and
2	second lead layers includes a ferromagnetic film.
1	(New) 20 Smethod as claimed in claim 52 wherein the spin valve sensor
2	is formed in the presence of a magnetic field that is directed perpendicular to the head surface
3	and the first and second lead layers are formed in the presence of a magnetic field that is directed

parallel to the head surface.

1 .	54. (New) A method of making a magnetic read head that has a head surface
2	for facing a magnetic medium, comprising the steps of:
3	forming a ferromagnetic first shield layer;
4	forming a first read gap layer on the first shield layer comprising the steps of
. 5	forming an insulation film on the first shield layer, and
6	forming an antiferromagnetic oxide film on the insulation film;
· 7	forming a read sensor on the first read gap layer with first and second side edges that
8	intersect the head surface comprising the steps of:
9	forming a ferromagnetic free layer and a ferromagnetic pinned layer;
10	forming an electrically conductive non-magnetic spacer layer between the free
11 /	and pinned layers;
12/	forming an antiferromagnetic metallic layer that exchange couples to the pinned
14	layer; and
14	forming a cap layer on the antiferromagnetic metallic layer;
15	forming first and second lead layers interfacing the first and second side edges
16	respectively of the sensor;
17	forming a second read gap layer on the sensor and the first and second lead layers;
18	forming a ferromagnetic second shield layer on the second read gap layer; and
19	forming each of the first and second lead layers with a ferromagnetic film so that the
. 20	ferromagnetic film of each of the first and second lead layers exchange couples to the
21	antiferromagnetic oxide film and magnetostatically couples to the read sensor.
1 ()	New) 22 25. (New) 22 24 25. (New) 25. (New) 26. (New) 27 28 29 29 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20
	layer includes:
3	forming non-magnetic adhesion and cap films;
4	forming an electrically conductive non-magnetic film between the non-magnetic adhesion
5	and cap films; and
6	in each of the first and second lead layers, forming the ferromagnetic film between the
7	non-magnetic adhesion film and the antiferromagnetic oxide film.

	24	+hp	23
1	(New)	A method as claimed in c	claim \$5 wherein the antiferromagnetic
2	metallic layer is selected f	rom the group Ir-Mn, Ni-Mn, Rh	-Mn, Pt-Mn, Pd-Pt-Mn and Cr-Pt-Mn.
	(25	tho	23
1	57. (New)		laim 55 wherein the antiferromagnetic
· 2	oxide film is selected fro	m the group NiO and α -Fe ₂ O ₃ .	g of
	26		15
1	58. (New)	method as claimed in c	claim 57 wherein the antiferromagnetic
Ę	metallic layer is selected f	rom the group Ir-Mn, Ni-Win, Rh	Mn, Pt-Mn, Pd-Pt-Mn and Cr-Pt-Mn.
(27	the	23
1	5 9. (New)	Amethod as claimed in c	claim 55 wherein the free film is Ni-Fe,
2	the spacer layer is Cu, th	e pinned layer is Co and the ant	iferromagnetic metallic layer is Ni-Mn.
1	18	the	23
ļ *	60. (New)	method as claimed in c	laim 85 wherein the antiferromagnetic
2	oxide film is NiO and the	ferromagnetic film of each of th	ne first and second lead layers is Ni-Fe.
	19	the	28
1	61. (New)	method as claimed in c	claim 60 wherein the antiferromagnetic
2	metallic layer is Ni-Mn.	\mathcal{O} .	
	1. 30	The	79
1	62. (New)	Amethod as claimed in	claim-67 wherein a thickness of the
2	metallic antiferromagnet		
	21	the	20
1	63. (New)	method as claimed in c	claim 62 wherein the antiferromagnetic
2	oxide film is NiO and the	√	ne first and second lead layers is Ni-Fe.
			*